

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 DODE-00 MMS-03 EB-11

COME-00 OMB-01 CG-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01 SS-20 ACDA-19 L-03 AID-20

DRC-01 /146 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5726

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

CINCLANT PRIORITY

COMMIDEASTFOR PRIORITY

S E C R E T NAIROBI 1542

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, IO

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF U.S. NAVAL PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN AREA

REFERENCE: STATE 028352

1. PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REFTEL, KEY COUNTRY TEAM MEMBERS AND I HAD UNDERTAKEN REVIEW IN DEPTH OF FACTORS WHICH DETERMINE KENYAN GOVERNMENT POLICY WITH RESPECT TO CALLS AT MOMBASA BY U.S. NAVY SHIPS. ON BASIS OF FINDINGS THIS REVIEW, WE HAVE PREPARED FOLLOWING RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL.

2. RE REFTEL QUESTION 2A, WE ANTICIPATE THAT HOST GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO BE RECEPTIVE IN 1974 TO VISITS BY COMIDEASTFOR VESSELS AT ABOUT SAME FRE-
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QUENCY AS IN 1973, I.E., TOTAL OF 15 INDIVIDUAL SHIP

VISITS. IN ADDITION, WE BELIEVE THAT VISITS DURING 1974 BY 4 CINCPAC TASK FORCES VISITS (OF 2-4 SHIPS) SUCH AS ORISKANY TASK FORCE LAST DECEMBER AND PROPOSED KITTY HAWK VISIT IN MARCH WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO GOK. (WE ARE THUS ASSUMING VISIT BY ONE SUCH TASK FORCE EACH QUARTER.) BELIEVE GOK ACCEPTABILITY OF ABOVE WILL BE ENHANCED IF INCREASED FREQUENCY OF VISITS INITIATED GRADUALLY. ACCEPTABILITY ANY ACCELERATION IN FREQUENCIES OF VISITS BEYOND THIS PROJECTED 1974 LEVEL FOR BOTH CINCPAC AND COMIDEASTFOR (WHICH ALREADY REPRESENTS DOUBLING IN NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL SHIP VISITS OVER 1973) WOULD HAVE TO BE REAPPRAISED BY EMBASSY.

3. RE REFTTEL QUESTION 2B, GOK HAS ON PAST OCCASIONS MADE CLEAR THAT REQUESTS FOR OVERFLIGHT AND LANDING CLEARANCES FOR COMBATANT AIRCRAFT WOULD NOT BE APPROVED. HOWEVER, IT IS LIKELY WE WOULD BE ABLE TO GET APPROVAL, IF ADEQUATE ADVANCE NOTICE GIVEN, FOR SUPPORT AIRCRAFT CARRYING MAIL OR ENGAGED IN INFREQUENT MEDICAL EVACUATIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS SUPPLY ACTIVITIES.

4. RE REFTTEL QUESTION 2C, GOK IS LIKELY TO PERMIT SHORE LEAVE WITHOUT ANY SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS ON NUMBER OF PERSONNEL. HOWEVER, IN CASE OF VISITS BY LARGER U.S. NAVY VESSELS, WE SHOULD, OF COURSE, EXERCISE REASONABLE SELF-RESTRAINT IN ORDER TO AVOID INCIDENTS WHICH MIGHT RESULT FROM OVERCROWDING OF MOMBASA FACILITIES. ALL PERSONNEL ON SHORE LEAVE MUST REPEAT MUST BE IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES. GOK UNLIKELY IMPOSE SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS ON DURATION SHORE LEAVE.

5. RE REFTTEL QUESTION 2D, WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT PERCEIVE ANY NEED FOR, OF GOK RECEPTIVITY TO, BILATERAL AGREEMENT TO COVER LEGAL CONTINGENCIES.

6. RE REFTTEL QUESTION 2E, GOK UNLIKELY TO AUTHORIZE MILITARY POLICE PATROLS. LOCAL POLICE ARE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO IMPLICATIONS THAT THEY NOT COMPETENT TO DEAL WITH LOCAL SECURITY SITUATION AND HAVE IN PAST REQUESTED THAT THERE BE NO SHORE PATROL.

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